

X-RAY TECHNOLOGY—Third Edition—Charles A. Jacob, B.Sc., R.T. (A.R.R.T.), Assistant Professor, Medical X-Ray Technology, and Radiation Health and Safety Officer, Radioactive Byproduct Installations, Oregon Technical Institute, Klamath Falls, Oregon; and Don Q. Parris, R.T. (A.R.R.T.), Chairman, Medical X-Ray Technology, Oregon Technical Institute, Klamath Falls, Oregon. The C. V. Mosby Company, Saint Louis, Missouri, 1964. 452 pages, \$11.50.

In this new edition the authors have replaced most of the x-ray illustrations with new cuts of much better quality. The illustrations of patient-positions taken from Merrill's 1959 folio have been entirely replaced. There have been a few new projections added, but this volume actually includes only the routine examinations. The former sections on dental radiography and hip nailing are omitted—otherwise the format is essentially unchanged from the second edition.

The technical procedures are all explained and illustrated in great detail. Pertinent points in anatomy and physiology are reviewed in relationship to the part examined. Radiographic physics and the principles of technique are well covered.

The section on contrast media is quite outdated. The use of flash identification, automatic processors and polaroid film techniques are not discussed. Aseptic technique should be part of the training of every technician.

However, this book fulfills its purpose which is to cover the basic technical procedures in a practical and concise manner. It was written for students of x-ray technology at the Oregon Technical Institute.

M. E. MOTTRAM, M.D.

* * *

HUMAN LABOR AND BIRTH—Harry Oxorn, B.A., M.D., C.M., F.A.C.S., F.R.C.S.(C), Lecturer in Obstetrics and Gynecology, McGill University; Associate Obstetrician and Gynecologist, Royal Victoria Montreal Maternity Hospital, Montreal, Canada; and William R. Foote, B.A., M.D., C.M., F.A.C.S., F.R.C.O.G., F.R.C.S.(C), Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, McGill University; Obstetrician and Gynecologist, Royal Victoria Montreal Maternity Hospital, Montreal, Canada. Appleton-Century-Crofts (A Division of Meredith Publishing Company), New York, 1964. 485 pages, \$7.95 (Paperbound).

This book might be described as an expanded synopsis of that portion of obstetrics dealing with what its authors call "the mundane topic of the passage of the fetus through the pelvis." It is aimed very largely at the undergraduate medical student and is designed to obviate didactic lectures and needless note-taking about the mechanisms of normal and abnormal labor. In addition to the usual descriptions of all the standard obstetric mechanisms, there are chapters on pelvic anatomy, fetal head anatomy, radiography in obstetrics, analgesia and anesthesia, as well as asphyxia and injuries of the newborn.

The outline style of presentation predominates in the text material and there are numerous simple but excellent line drawings, most of them prepared expressly for this volume by Dorothy Irwin. The illustrations of forceps operations by Elizabeth Broedel are borrowed from Douglas and Stromme's fine atlas on operative obstetrics. The fact that text and related drawings face each other accounts for the rather large number of pages (almost five hundred) in the book; many pages are sparsely filled with printed words

and the illustrations are by no means crowded, but these thoughtful arrangements are a real asset.

This book is excellent for the purpose intended by its authors and may be recommended to students and house officers caring for women in labor. A copy should be available in every labor-delivery suite to complement the larger standard textbooks and to compete with the ubiquitous television set for the attention of the intern or resident on duty.

C. E. McLENNAN, M.D.

* * *

ADVANCES IN DIAGNOSTIC UROLOGY—Edited by Joseph J. Kaufman, M.D., F.A.C.S., Associate Professor of Surgery/Urology, School of Medicine, University of California at Los Angeles. With 14 Contributing Authors. Little, Brown and Company, Boston, Mass., 1964. 294 pages, \$12.50.

Urology is so technical a specialty and urologic technics are advancing so rapidly that Dr. Kaufman has done the specialty a real service by assembling concise, well-illustrated chapters by 14 authorities who have themselves taken part in the development of these technics. Much of the detailed material can be found nowhere else, and is in a form readily usable by urologists in practice.

* * *

CARDIAC ARREST AND RESUSCITATION—Second Edition—Hugh E. Stephenson, Jr., B.S., M.D., F.A.C.S., Professor of Surgery, University of Missouri School of Medicine, Columbia, Mo. The C. V. Mosby Company, Saint Louis, 1964. 501 pages, \$15.00.

This is a compilation of a large literature on the subject of cardiac arrest and resuscitation. There is no comprehensive account of the author's personal experiences. The author has enlisted the contributions of ten contributors who, instead of writing individual chapters, write sections within chapters so that it is sometimes difficult to determine the authorship of any particular part.

This style is somewhat difficult because of the frequent large capitalization. There was some duplication, as for example, one chapter describes complications in cardiac resuscitation and five chapters later there is one on cerebral anoxia and neurologic sequelae after cardiac arrest.

The material is somewhat elusive because it appears to have been written as a review of the literature rather than a comprehensive account of present opinion.

The material covered is quite complete and includes the mechanism, diagnosis, management, prevention of cardiac arrest, post-resuscitative care, complications, prognosis, and elective cardiac arrest. There is also a good account of the medico-legal aspects with a summary of cases which have been subject to litigation.

Details of some of the newer equipment for monitoring and for pacing are included in the chapter on management of cardiac arrest.

The literature is most comprehensive and consists of 45 pages of references, two columns to the page.

The book is valuable for the review of this extensive bibliography, but one hopes that in the next edition the authors describe their own experiences and critical judgments.

MAURICE SOKOLOW, M.D.